

**RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF THE LADYBIRD BEETLES  
*COCCINELLA SEPTEMPUNCTATA* L. AND  
*C. UNDECIMPUNCTATA* LINN. (COL.: COCCINELLIDAE)  
 AT 3414 METRES (11200 FEET) ALTITUDE IN INDIA**

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*COCCINELLA SEPTEMPUNCTATA* L. is a natural enemy and predate a variety of insects, including *Brachycaudus helichrysi* Kalt infesting apricot, peach and plum, *Eriosoma lanigerum* Hausmn. on apple, *Diaphornia citri* Kuw. on citrus, *Aphis gossypii* Glover on cotton, *Lipaphis crysimi* Kalk on mustard and *Chilo partellus* Zell. and *Perigrinus maidis* Ashmead on millets (Nair, 1986). *Pryrilla perpusilla* Wlk. and *Drosicha mangiferae* are predated by *C. septempunctata* Linn. and *C. undecim-punctata* L. (Saxena and Rawat, 1968).

During a survey and collection of the insect fauna in high altitude areas of Leh: Ladakh (Jammu and Kashmir) situated at 3414 metres sea level in north-west Himalaya in 1992, examples of *Coccinella septempunctata* were observed feeding on aphids infesting cabbage, cauliflower, mustard and lucern grass. The adult beetles were collected and kept separately with aphids collected from different crops in petri dishes and were confirmed as predators of these aphids. Adult beetles of *C. undecimpunctata* were also noticed on these plants, but aphids were not predated.

Random sampling of beetle populations on aphid infested plants was carried out and the populations of both beetles were recorded (Table 1). Mustard plant was recorded as having the highest number of *C. septempunctata*.

**Table 1. Populations of *Coccinella septempunctata* and *C. undecimpunctata* on different crops in north-west Himalaya.**

Crop	Average population/plant	
	<i>C. septempunctata</i> L.	<i>C. undecimpunctata</i> L.
Cabbage	4	1.5
Cauliflower	2	0.5
Mustard	9	2.0
Lucern	2	—

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#### References

- Nair, M.R.G.K., 1986. *Insects and mites of crops in India*. Indian Council of Agricultural Research Publication, New Dehli.
- Saxena, D.K. and Rawat, R.R., 1968. Bionomics of *Drosicha mangiferae* Green Citrus. *Madras Agric. J.* **55**: 309-313.

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### First record of The Latin *Calloplistria juvenina* Stoll (Lep.: Noctuidae) in Guernsey

On 29 July 1995 I was surprised to find a fresh specimen of The Latin in my garden trap as this is the first occasion on which the species has been noted in Guernsey. Heath and Emmet (Eds. 1983. *Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland* Vol. **10**) describe it as being widespread, although local, in southern and central France as far north as Paris, but it is noted to have been spreading northwards since 1930. Lainé, M. (1978. *Macrolépidoptères de Normandie*, Vol. **3**) describes it as being rare in Normandy and found in open woodland. Both works give its foodplant as bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*.— P.D.M. COSTEN, La Broderie, La Claire Mare, St. Peters, Guernsey GY7 9QA.

### African Grass Blue *Zizeeria knysna knysna* Trimen (Lep.: Lycaenidae) in Valencia Province, Spain

On 10 October 1995 whilst searching for butterflies along the irrigation canal that runs past my local village of Benifayo, Valencia, Spain, I took a single specimen of the African Grass Blue *Zizeeria knysna knysna* Trimen. I searched the area but found no other examples. Since that date I have found three other specimens in the same area, two females and one male. Several specimens were taken by Caron and Cottrill on the outskirts of Benidorm (Alicante) in May 1963 (Manley and Allcard, *A Field Guide to the Butterflies and Burnets of Spain*), but this is the first to be recorded in this area. Higgins and Riley (1977, *A Field Guide to the Butterflies of Britain and Europe*. Collins) list subspecies *knysna* Trimen as being "local in Provinces of Malaga, Granada, Cadiz and Seville".

Benifayo, Valencia is situated on the east coast of Spain approximately 132 kilometres north of Benidorm and 500 kilometres north-east of Malaga.  
— G. STEVENS, Urb. Pla de las Clotxes, II, Apt. de Correos 20, 46450 Benifayo, Valencia, Spain.